General Assembly

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Seventieth session
Agenda item 28

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 23 December 2015

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/70/481)*]

70/229. Persons with albinism

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] and recalling relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[2] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[3] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[4] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[5] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[6] and the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,[7]

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 24/33 of 27 September 2013 on technical cooperation for the prevention of attacks against persons with albinism,[8]

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 69/170 of 18 December 2014, by which the Assembly decided to proclaim 13 June as International Albinism Awareness Day, with effect from 2015, and Human Rights Council resolution 28/6 of 26 March 2015,[9] by which the Council established the mandate of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism,

Taking note of the preliminary report on persons with albinism submitted by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Human Rights Council at its twenty-fourth session,[10]

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[4] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[5] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[6] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[7] A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).

[8] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[9] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/70/53), chap. III, sect. A.

[10] A/HRC/24/57.

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Taking note also of African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights resolution 263 of 5 November 2013 on the prevention of attacks and discrimination against persons with albinism,

Expressing concern at the attacks against persons with albinism, including women and children,

Welcoming the steps taken and the efforts made by the countries concerned, including the initiation of legal action against perpetrators of attacks against persons with albinism, public condemnation of attacks against persons with albinism and public campaigns to raise awareness,

Expressing concern that persons with albinism are disproportionately affected by poverty, owing to the discrimination and marginalization they face, and in this regard recognizing that there is a need for resources to develop and implement programmes to prevent and combat prejudice and create an environment conducive to respect for their rights and dignity,

Reaffirming the need for the participation of persons with albinism in development efforts at the national, regional and international levels, and in this regard stressing the need to strengthen the effectiveness of national, regional and international policy and development programmes affecting persons with albinism,

1. *Encourages* Member States to continue to meet their obligations to uphold the rights of persons of albinism, including the rights to life, liberty, security of person, education, work, an adequate standard of living and the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present a comprehensive report, using existing resources and mechanisms, including the Independent Expert of the Human Rights Council on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism, to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Social development", on the various social development challenges faced by persons with albinism, taking into consideration the specific needs of women and children, including those related to social inclusion, health, education and employment, and measures taken, with recommendations for further action to be taken by Member States and other relevant stakeholders to address identified challenges, and encourages the Secretary-General to gather information from all relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system for the preparation of the report;

3. *Decides*, taking into account the multifaceted nature of the challenges faced by persons with albinism, to consider the issue of persons with albinism at its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Social development".

82nd plenary meeting
23 December 2015